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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Rachel BAR-SHAVIT

Group Art Unit: 1635

Application No.: 09/744,679

Examiner: K. Lacourciere

Filed: April 11, 2001

Docket No.: 108366

For: METHOD FOR TREATMENT OF INVASIVE CELLS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the September 5, 2002 Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-12 and 14-19, with traverse.

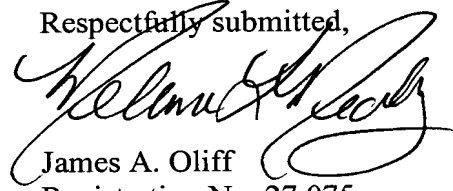
It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of Groups II-IV should be searched and examined together with the subject matter of Group I based on the relatedness of the subject matter. In particular, Groups II-IV are directed to methods for treating metastatic tumors cells comprising administering an antisense molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to a RNA sequence of a protease activated receptor protein in the same family as the thrombin receptor of Group I. It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of Groups II-IV is sufficiently related to the subject matter of Group I that a thorough search for the subject matter of Group I would encompass a search for the subject matter of Groups II-IV. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits even though it includes

claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is a linking claim that links the invention of Groups I-IV. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that once the subject matter of Group I has been determined to be allowable, the subject matter Groups II-IV must be considered.

Early and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully request.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MLM/jam

Date: October 7, 2002

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